

Washington, DC – U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced another step toward passage this week of legislation he sponsored that will expand and preserve the historical Missions of San Antonio. The bill was voted out of the House Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday and will be favorably reported to the full House for consideration. It provides for a new education center and authorizes a study of lands to be included within the Park's boundary.

"This bill will preserve and expand one of our community's most treasured legacies, the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park," said Congressman Rodriguez. "Many partners have contributed to the preservation of our historic lands and I am pleased to be a part of that coalition. This legislation will help keep the Missions intact while supporting future growth and development."

Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff said the legislation is part of a broad vision and master plan for the region.

"Bexar County, the federal government and the City of San Antonio, are heavily investing in San Antonio's South Side; those investments include San Antonio River improvements, infrastructure enhancements and protection and expansion of the Missions National Historic Park," Judge Wolff said. "Bexar County has engaged in creating and developing a master plan for this area to protect these investments and this culturally significant area, so I am pleased that the legislation affecting the growth of the Missions continues to move toward full passage and will tie into our overall plan."

Partnerships are critical to keeping the Missions National Historical Park thriving. The non-profit organization Los Compadres de San Antonio Missions National Historical Park has also stepped in to raise funds for preservation, development and education projects.

The bill was voice-voted out of the House Natural Resources Committee on May 5th and received the support of the entire Bexar County Congressional delegation. # # #